

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 724

Introduced by Assembly Member Dutra

February 24, 1999

An act to add Section 11006.5 to the Government Code, relating to the Year 2000 Problem.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 724, as introduced, Dutra. State government: Year 2000 problem.

Existing law establishes in state government the Department of Information Technology to provide leadership, guidance, and oversight of information technology in state government.

This bill would make a legislative finding and declaration that the identification and remediation of the Year 2000 Problem is the top priority information technology project for the state for the duration of 1999. This bill would also declare the intent of the Legislature to isolate Year 2000 Problem remediation as the top information technology priority for all state agencies and departments and to establish new dates of completion that are not in conflict with Year 2000 Problem remediation for all statutorily mandated automation and information technology systems that are not crucial to public health or safety or mission critical.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11006.5 is added to the
2 Government Code, to read:

3 11006.5. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of
4 the following:

5 (1) The Year 2000 Problem poses a substantial risk to
6 the welfare of the residents, businesses, and state of
7 California.

8 (2) Due to the risks surrounding the complex nature
9 of the Year 2000 Problem, it is necessary for the state to
10 recognize fully the potential political and social climate
11 that may result from widespread power outages, resource
12 shortages, and disruptions to the lives of California
13 residents and to the course of normal trade and
14 commerce within the state of California and with its
15 business partners.

16 (3) Due to the time sensitive nature of the Year 2000
17 Problem, the state must initiate an aggressive
18 preparation period with the express intent of decreasing
19 the state's risk exposure associated with the Year 2000
20 Problem.

21 (4) The risks facing the state associated with the Year
22 2000 Problem include, but are not limited to, the failure
23 of systems that may disrupt the state's ability to conduct
24 business and the litigation associated with these failures.

25 (b) The Legislature further finds and declares that
26 identification and remediation of the Year 2000 Problem
27 is the top priority information technology project for the
28 state for the duration of 1999.

29 (c) It is the intent of the Legislature to do both of the
30 following:

31 (1) Isolate Year 2000 Problem remediation as the top
32 information technology priority for all state agencies and
33 departments.

34 (2) Establish new dates of completion that are not in
35 conflict with Year 2000 Problem remediation for all
36 statutorily mandated automation and information
37 technology systems that are not crucial to public health
38 or safety or mission critical.

1 (d) For the purposes of this section, the term “Year
2 2000 Problem” means any expected or actual computing,
3 physical, enterprise, or distributed systems complications
4 that may occur as a result of the century change from 1999
5 to 2000. These problems are often associated with the
6 common programming practice of using a two-digit field
7 to represent a year, resulting in an ambiguous
8 interpretation of the term “00,” the failure to recognize
9 the year 2000 as a leap year, the use of algorithms that use
10 the year “99” or “00” as a flag for another function, or the
11 use of applications, software, or hardware that is date
12 sensitive.

